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N.B. Human Rights Commission

March 21 is International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (06/03/20)

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FREDERICTON (CNB) - The following is a statement by Gordon L. Porter, chair of the New Brunswick Human Rights Commission, on the occasion of the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

"March 21 is the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. The day was declared by the United Nations in 1966 as a call to the international community to redouble its efforts to eliminate all forms of racial discrimination.

"New Brunswick's diversity of race, culture, language and religion is a positive force, a source of energy, creativity and vitality.

"Research has shown that employers with a diverse workforce are more profitable, and communities that are viewed as welcoming and diverse tend to grow faster because they attract immigrants. Employers and communities in New Brunswick are increasingly recognizing this, and have made great progress in attracting students and employees.

"Immigration is a critical element in New Brunswick's economic development. To increase immigration it is essential that we embrace diversity, and continue in our efforts to make our province a truly welcoming place for people to live, study and work.

"This is one of the issues that will be explored at a national human rights conference that the Human Rights Commission and the Atlantic Human Rights Centre will be hosting in Fredericton in June. One of the themes of the conference is how to balance security and human rights so that we can maintain harmonious multicultural relations, and continue to be an attractive destination for immigrants.

"On March 21, I invite all New Brunswickers to join the New Brunswick Human Rights Commission in a renewed commitment to eliminate racism, and I challenge each of us to make a conscious effort to welcome people from around the world to our province."

06/03/20

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